

State of Utah
Department of Administrative Services
Division of Finance

www.finance.utah.gov

**April 2004** 

A newsletter for state government travelers and travel planners

# **Food Service Policies Vary by Airline**

Because the airlines are continually changing the way they handle food service, we encourage travelers to check the airline's web site before departure to see if their specific flight offers a meal or snack. Policies vary by airline and may depend on the amount of time in the air, the number of miles flown, or the time of day. Generally, it's a good idea to be prepared by eating before you board or by taking food with you.

For all airlines, special meals (e.g., vegetarian, diabetic) are available only in first class. However, all airlines currently allow passengers to take their own food on board, even if a meal or snack is served. Several airlines also offer food for sale on selected flights. Please note that passengers are generally required to **pay cash** for food purchased during a flight.

Below is a summary of policies in force when this newsletter was being compiled. Current policies and sample menus are available on the Web sites listed for the individual airlines.

### Delta

In Economy class, Delta serves meals only on flights to Alaska and Hawaii. However, meals and snacks are currently available for purchase on continental U.S. flights greater than 1,550 miles (approximately 3.5 hours). Food items offered range in price from \$2 to \$10 each.

www.delta.com/travel/during flight/dining/

#### United

Economy class passengers have the option on select North American flights to purchase boxed meals on flights of 3½ to 5 hours in length, and ala carte items on flights of 2½ to 3½ hours in length. Meal prices range from \$7 to \$10.

Effective March 4, United no longer offers a complementary snack box but will continue to offer the complementary beverage service and cocktail snack. <a href="https://www.united.com/page/article/0,6722,50584,00.html">www.united.com/page/article/0,6722,50584,00.html</a>

### **America West**

Coach customers are welcome to bring food on board or, on select flights, to purchase a meal or snack from the In-Flight Cafe. Prices range from \$2 to \$7. By this summer, the In-Flight Cafe will be available on all flights over three hours in length departing between 6 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

www.americawest.com/services/foodbeverage/

#### Continental

In Economy class for flights of 1½ to 2 hours, beverages and a complimentary snack will be offered for breakfast, and beverages and munchies will be offered during the lunch/dinner hours. For flights over 2 hours, beverages and a cold breakfast snack will be offered for breakfast and a cold sandwich will be offered

# Food Service Policies Vary (article continues from page 1)

for lunch and dinner. On flights over 3½ hours, beverages and a snack basket containing cold breakfast items will be offered for breakfast, and a hot sandwich snack basket will be offered for lunch or dinner. <a href="https://www.continental.com/travel/inflight/dining/domestic/">www.continental.com/travel/inflight/dining/domestic/</a>

### **Northwest**

For Economy class passengers, meals and a ala carte items are available for purchase in the main cabin on selected flights. Prices range from \$2 to \$10. <a href="https://www.nwa.com/services/onboard/special/meals.html">www.nwa.com/services/onboard/special/meals.html</a>

### **American**

For Coach customers, American offers complimentary food service within traditional meal times on all flights of four hours or more. On flights where only beverages are served, passengers may bring their own food on board.

www.aa.com/content/travelInformation/duringFlight/dining/
domesticMealService.jhtml 

The complementary food service within traditional travelling to the complementary food service within traditional travelling to the complementary food service within traditional meal times on all flights of four hours or more. On flights where only beverages are served, passengers may bring their own food on board.

### **Travel Briefs**

#### **Book Hotel Reservations Well In Advance**

Travelers, please remember that you need to make in-state hotel reservations well in advance of your trip, especially for summer months.

Hotels offer only a limited number of rooms at the state

per diem rate, and when those rooms are filled the price reverts to the rate offered to the general public.

When you reserve a room, you must ask for the **State of Utah per diem rate**. If you cannot obtain the State of Utah per diem rate, you **must** call the State Travel Office for assistance. Otherwise, you will be reimbursed only for the per diem rate allowable in each geographic area. Travelers will have to personally pay for any extra costs.

three airlines can book their passengers on se-



For help obtaining lodging at the state per diem rate, contact Diann Donoviel at 801-538-3103 or <a href="mailto:ddonoviel@utah.gov">ddonoviel@utah.gov</a>.

### **Airline Alliance Expands**

The tri-lateral alliance between Continental, Northwest, and Delta continues to expand. Continental and Delta added to the alliance by launching "codesharing" on an additional 1,200 flights. Codesharing means that each of the

lected flights for the other two airlines. Continental also now has eTicketing agreements with both Delta and Northwest.

The airlines' alliance will allow passengers to choose one frequent flyer program for which to earn miles when flying any of the three carriers. In addition, the airlines have launched reciprocal airport lounge access. Travelers will check in at the airport with the airline that booked the flight and issued the ticket.

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## Travel Briefs (Briefs continue from page 2)

Don't Stand In Line to Pick Up a Rental Car at the Airport

If you don't want to stand in line to pick up a rental car at the airport, sign up for National Car Rental's Emerald Club, a no-cost time saver program. National's Web site provides an on-line enrollment form for the Emerald Club and gives details for the program.

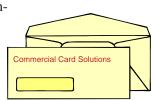
You can access a link to the enrollment form for National's Emerald Club on our Web site at: <a href="https://www.finance.utah.gov/travel/rentalcars.htm">www.finance.utah.gov/travel/rentalcars.htm</a>.



### Don't Throw It Away!

If your personal mail includes an envelope from Commercial Card Solutions at a PO Box in Salt Lake City, don't throw it away—it's probably your MasterCard corporate card statement from JP Morgan Chase.

The statement inside the envelope names JP Morgan Chase at the top and directs you to send payments to Commercial Card Solutions.



### **TSA Publishes Fines for Security Contraband**

We thought you might find it interesting to read some of the fines the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) charges passengers who try to bring banned items through security checkpoints, either intentionally or by accident. The law allows TSA to fine individuals up to \$10,000 per violation, but the agency recently put a dollar figure on each offense.

Fines for trying to bring weapons onboard an aircraft range between \$250 and \$1,500 for a sharp object or club-like object that can be used as a weapon, while carrying an unloaded gun will trigger a fine of \$1,500 to \$3,000 and a criminal referral.

Explosives such as dynamite will prompt a fine of between \$6,000 and \$10,000, whether they're brought onboard or checked as luggage. Less serious explosives, such as fireworks, are subject to a fine of between \$250 and \$1,500.

According to TSA, agents are supposed to consider "aggravating and mitigating factors." Aggravating factors that may produce a higher fine include "artful concealment," display of a weapon, past history, and "attitude of the violator." Mitigating factors include disclosure of the item by a violator, an inexperienced flyer, and cases where the flyer is a juvenile.

#### It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Nicole Naylor on the birth of a 7 pound 3 ounce daughter on April 3. Nicole and her husband, Justin, have a long list of possible names for their new arrival and are still deciding which name to choose.

Nicole will be on maternity leave until July. While she is gone, for help with group accommodations contact Diann Donoviel at 801-538-3103 or <a href="mailto:ddonoviel@utah.gov">ddonoviel@utah.gov</a>. <a href="mailto:ddonoviel@utah.gov">ddonoviel@utah.gov</a>.